

Ownership of the media is already concentrated into too few hands. Please do not permit monopolies to further increase their media holdings. Our democracy depends on independent and diverse reporting.

Some might think that relaxing the current rules is just an extension of our free market system. But there are at least a couple major problems with that view.

First, the current concentration gives large companies unfair advantage in a variety of ways. It is similar to Microsoft in the software world, an acknowledged monopolist as determined by the court system.

Second, the publicly owned airwaves must not be treated as just another means of doing business. Even the current concentration of ownership is more than we should have. To relax the rules brings a further threat to one of the major strengths of our democracy.